

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 COA-02 RSR-01 /112 W
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R 182129 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9504
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMCONSUL CURACAO
USCINCSO FOR POLAD

UNCLAS CARACAS 3336

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, PFOR, VE, CO, NA

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER CALVANI ON "INTERRUPTED" TALKS
WITH COLOMBIA

SUMMARY: FOREIGN MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENT ON END OF ROME TALKS
SAID THEY HAD BEEN "INTERRUPTED" AT COLOMBIAN REQUEST. DR.
CALVANI SAID THEY HAVE NOT BEEN PARALYZED. BOTH FORMAL
ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALVANI REMARKS TO PRESS APRIL 17 MADE
CLEAR VENEZUELA HOPES BILATERAL DIALOGUE WILL CONTINUE, AND
CALVANI INDICATED CONTINENTAL SHELF DISCUSSIONS WILL BE FEATURE
OF VASQUEZ CARRIZOSA VISIT TO VENEZUELA DURING NEXT THREE
MONTHS. END SUMMARY.

1. FOREIGN MINISTRY ANNOUNCED APRIL 17 THAT ROME TALKS BETWEEN
COLOMBIA AND VENEZUELA ON CONTINENTAL SHELF BOUNDARIES UNDER
MODUS OPERANDI OF MARCH 14, 1970 HAVE BEEN "INTERRUPTED IN
VIEW OF THE WISH EXPRESSED BY THE COLOMBIAN PLENIPOTENTIARY".
ANNOUNCEMENT CALLED "POSSIBLE AND DESIRABLE" A CONTINUING
DIALOGUE, WHICH IT HOPED "CAN BE CONTINUED AT LEVELS AND AT
TIMES ESTABLISHED BY COMMON AGREEMENT". IT CALLED DIRECT
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NEGOTIATION " AN OBLIGATION IN INTERNATIONAL LAW... A TRUE MORAL NEED FOR OUR COUNTRIES AND THE FORMULA MOST SUITABLE TO FIND JUST AND EQUITABLE SOLUTIONS FREELY AGREED ON BY THE PARTIES".

2. ASKED TO COMMENT ON COLOMBIAN ANNOUNCEMENT WHICH USED TERM " ENDED AT THE PLENIPOTENTIARY LEVEL" FOREIGN MINISTER CALVANI TOLD NEWSMENT APRIL 17, " I SINCERELY BELIEVE WE SHOULD NOT SPEAK OF FAILURE AT THIS MOMENT BECAUSE WE SHOULD HAVE IN MIND THAT WE ARE NOT FACING A SIMPLE PROCESS, BUT RATHER A COMPLEX ONE". HE TOOK NOTE OF COLOMBIAN STATEMENT THAT TALKS HAD BEEN POSITIVE AND USEFUL AND ADDED, " I BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD SPEAK ONLY OF THE END OF A STAGE WHICH COLOMBIA INTERRUPTED", HE STATED VENEZUELA STILL HAS FAITH IN DIALOGUE AND THAT HE SAW NO REASON FOR NOT CONTINUING NEGOTIATING.

3. HE INDICATED ONE OPPORTUNITY FOR SUCH CONTINUATION WOULD BE VISIT OF COLOMBIAN FOREIGN MINISTER VASQUEZ CARRIZOSA TO VENEZUELA DURING NEXT THREE MONTHS. HE EMPHASIZED TALKS HAVE NOT BEEN PARALYZED BUT INTERRUPTED, AND SAID A " FOREIGN MINISTRY TO FOREIGN MINISTRY" CONVERSATION CAN BE A REAL AND EFFECTIVE WAY OF CONTINUING TALKS.

4. NEWS OF TALKS END SHARED HEADLINES WITH NETHERLANDS FOREIGN MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENT THAT DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ZAMBRANO WILL ARRIVE AT THE HAGUE APRIL 26 FOR TALKS ON CONTINENTAL SHELF BETWEEN VENEZUELA AND ARUBA.

MCCLINTOCK

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